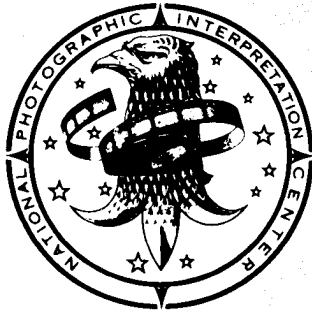


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PHOOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION
REPORT

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION CENTER

SHIELD 76 SUMMARY, POLAND

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SHIELD 76 SUMMARY, POLAND

INTRODUCTION

1. Shield 76 was a combined Warsaw Pact exercise held in Western Poland in September 1976 (Figure 1). The exercise was announced as having occurred between 9 and 16 September with a troop level of 35,000, which is in accordance with the terms of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe Agreement.¹ This report summarizes ac-



FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF SHIELD 76 EXERCISE, WESTERN POLAND

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tivity seen on photography on dates prior to and during the exercise. Although no large-scale tactical play was observed, the activity seen should aid in photographically analyzing future Pact exercises and activity that are possible in preparation for wartime.

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DESCRIPTION

Command and Control

3. High-level, field deployed command posts (CP) were identified as a result of an analysis of Shield 76. Polish CPs near Torun and in the Bednary/Biedrusko Area were probably the major control points for the exercise in Western Poland. A Czechoslovakian CP near Czarne was probably related to Czechoslovakian ground force activity in the Borne Training Area 404 [] approximately 9 nautical miles (nm) to the southwest.

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4. The Torun Area CP was deployed in three areas west and south of the city. [] in the Torun Training Area West [] five revetments containing expandable vans, numerous single vehicle revetments, and a network of interconnecting communications/personnel trenches were observed (Figure 2A). The spoil from trench and revetment excavation was very light in tone. [] the spoil had evidently been treated to blend with the surrounding area. The vehicle revetments were net covered; no equipment could be identified. Two antiaircraft artillery (AAA) batteries were nearby on all three photographic coverages of the area.

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5. The Torun Training Area West was observed approximately one month after the exercise was held. Photography [] showed trench backfilling in progress.

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6. The two remaining areas of this CP were in the Torun Training Area Podgorz 416 [] approximately 13 nm east-southeast of Torun West. These areas were under construction [] These two areas were approximately 3 nm apart, and each contained numerous vehicle revetments and extensive trenching. [] 47 van trucks and 18 UAZ-69s were parked in a clearing near the southernmost part of the CP. Fourteen additional trucks were parked in convoy on a nearby road. Vehicles were not in revetments at that time. On photography in September, net covering precluded identification of the vehicles in revetments. Also, the spoil was noticeably darker, partly because sod had been cut from nearby areas and placed on areas of disturbed earth.

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7. Another Polish CP was deployed in the same three-area pattern as the Torun CP. One area was just west of Bednary Airfield [] and the other two areas were approximately 12 nm to the west-southwest in the Biedrusko Training Area [] The two areas at Biedrusko are approximately 1.2 nm apart.

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8. This CP was covered on photography [redacted] The area near Bednary was under construction [redacted]. Two Polish expandable vans were positioned back-to-back in a revetment, and at least three other vehicle revetments and probable communications trenches were being dug. A 25-tent bivouac area was at the airfield, approximately 1 nm away. [redacted] the spoil at the CP was darker toned than it was in August, and what appeared to be trees or shrubs placed on the road passing through the area were observed. A probable signal unit, which included 26 van trucks, ten trailers, and a UAZ-69, was parked in convoy formation just north of the CP. Other equipment in the area included a probable OT-64, at least 14 trucks, four UAZ-69s, three buses, and the two expandable vans still in the revetment. Only 11 tents remained in the bivouac area.

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9. Each of the two CP areas in the Biedrusko Training Area contained numerous vehicle revetments and extensive trenching [redacted], sod was being removed from the surrounding terrain and being placed over the spoil from the revetments and trenches. Cargo trucks were seen in the area where the sod was being cut and in the area where it was being laid. This activity reduced the very light tone of the spoil. The lack of activity in the Biedrusko portion of the CP [redacted] was an indication that operations there were almost complete.

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10. A small Czechoslovakian CP was observed on the west edge of the Czarne Training Area Southwest 405 [redacted] The CP consisted of a small bivouac area containing seven tents and at least 15 vehicle revetments in a wooded area nearby. [redacted] 12 trucks, two trailers, and two buses were observed in the area. Nine OT-62s; four OT-64s; five possible OT-64s; and seven trucks were seen [redacted]

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12. [redacted] a marked decrease in the usual vehicle count at two installations housing Polish signal regiments, Walcz Army Barracks 004 [redacted] and Bydgoszcz WOW Barracks Koszary 001/004 [redacted] The Walcz regiment is subordinate to the Polish Ministry of National Defense and the Bydgoszcz regiment is subordinate to the Pomeranian Military District. These could have been the units manning the Polish CPs. The absence of front- and army-level signal equipment from garrison is a strong indication that major CP activity was in progress.

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13. Activity in the garrisons where the main Soviet signal units are situated in Poland, Legnica and Wroclaw, appeared normal. Soviet troposcatter activity was seen in the following locations:

- a. One set of TWIN PLATE antennas was just south of Legnica [redacted] The area was cloud covered [redacted]
- b. Two sets of TWIN PLATE and one set of TWIN PAN antennas were set up just east of Miedzyrzecz Army Barracks Keszycza 201 [redacted]

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- c. One set of TWIN PLATE was at the northern end of the Drawsko Pomorskie Army/SAM Maneuver Area 401 [] 25X1
- d. One TWIN PLATE truck and trailer in travel mode were just outside Borne Army Barracks Sulinowo 201 [] The two sets of TWIN PAN were in their usual location at this installation. 25X1
- e. Two sets of TWIN PLATE were set up at Rembertow Army Barracks 203 [] 25X1
[] Five additional sets were deployed approximately 8 nm northeast of the barracks. 25X1

Installation Activity

14. Shield 76 was a demonstration-type exercise in which selected units from various divisions participated. Installations housing five active Polish divisions, which were seen on photography [] were analyzed to determine if units were present in the area. 25X1
The two tank divisions, 5th and 20th, and the three mechanized infantry divisions, 4th, 8th, and 12th, were housed in 30 garrisons in Western Poland. Twenty-nine of these were covered on photography [] 25X1

15. The 5th Mechanized Infantry Regiment, 12th Mechanized Division, equipped with the BMP-type armored personnel carrier (APC) from Szczecin Army Barracks Kreckow NE 5 [] was out of garrison. It had deployed to the Biedrusko Training Area. The unit was observed in the training area [] and was back in garrison [] 25X1
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16. The BMP-equipped Reconnaissance Battalion, 8th Mechanized Division, from Kolobrzeg Army Barracks 1/4 [] was out of garrison (Figure 3). A BMP-equipped reconnaissance battalion was seen in the Drawsko Training Area on the same day that the barracks was covered on photography. However, this reconnaissance battalion possibly belongs to the 16th tank division at Elblag Army Barracks 6 [] 25X1
25X1

17. The vehicle parks containing the artillery regiment and FROG battalion of the 5th tank division at Kostrzyn Army Barracks Pioneer 3 [] were empty [] 25X1
[] The units were probably out of garrison, but where they were deployed was not known. 25X1

18. The AAA regiment of the 4th Mechanized Division was not in Czerwiesk Army Barracks []. When in garrison, this regiment is always parked in the open. 25X1

19. All or part of the following units of the 20th Tank Division participated in SHIELD 76: the reconnaissance battalion, two tank regiments, the artillery regiment, the FROG battalion, the signal battalion, and motor transport elements. The garrisons for the division are in the vicinity of the Drawsko Training Area, which is possibly the deployment area for the division.

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Training Area Activity and Demonstrations

20. An apparent combat demonstration was observed in progress at the Drawsko Pomorskie Army/SAM Maneuver Area 401 [redacted] (Figure 4). A Polish tank regiment was deployed at the northern end of the training area. At least 75 tanks were in position to move south in both company and platoon columns. This apparent demonstration also involved a probable mechanized infantry unit; two multiple rocket launcher battalions each containing 12 BM-21s; 48 camouflaged gun positions for a probable artillery regiment; positions for two additional six-gun artillery batteries, which were camouflaged; an AAA regiment; two possible SA-9 batteries; and elements of an SA-6 regiment. It seemed that the tank regiment would be attacking to the south where an observation stand was set up about 2 nm away. At least 15 camouflaged vehicle revetments near the observation stand were perpendicular to the direction in which the tanks were expected to move. The type of unit occupying these revetments was not known.

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21. The coverage of Drawsko Training Area was the best look at any of the scheduled demonstrations of SHIELD 76. Netting and canvas covering was used extensively throughout the exercise.

22. Biedrusko Training Area 404 was observed on photography [redacted]
[redacted] The Polish 5th Mechanized Infantry Regiment was seen parked in the same place on both dates (Figure 5). The regiment had been deployed here from Szczecin Army Barracks Kreckow NE 005. Elements of an SA-6 regiment and a towed AAA regiment were also seen. A SCUD training exercise was observed [redacted]

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23. Czechoslovakian forces were observed in the Borne Training Area 404 [redacted]
[redacted] A tank regiment and an artillery battalion were at the east end of the training area. Eighty-nine tanks and 30 OT-62 APCs were observed. The activity appeared to be diminishing. The bivouac area had fewer tents [redacted] and equipment loading activity was seen at two nearby railheads. Tanks, APCs, and trucks were seen on flatcars or waiting to be loaded at Okonek Railroad Yard South [redacted] and at a spur 5 nm north-northwest of Okonek.

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24. [redacted] preparations for a river crossing demonstration were observed 5 nm west of Krosno Odrzawskie on the north bank of the Oder River. Two probable maneuver regiments were present; one was possibly a tank regiment. PTS tracked amphibians and GSP heavy amphibious ferry assault crossing equipment was also parked in the area. The associated bivouac area contained approximately 400 tents. PMP ponton bridge sections were being deployed and assembled in the river about 1 nm upstream from the main bivouac area. A nearby bivouac area contained at least 50 tents.

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25. Swietoszow Training Area was seen [redacted] but was cloud covered on [redacted] Not much activity was seen, however, a tank regiment, an AAA regiment, an artillery regiment, and a multiple rocket launcher battalion were present. [redacted] a train loaded with probable military equipment was seen parked on the outskirts of Zagan, just north of the training area. The train contained 15 trucks and at least five other vehicles. [redacted] a possible signal unit was on railcars in Legnica Railroad Yard Northwest [redacted] approximately 30 nm east-southeast of Swietoszow.

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26. A regimental-sized drop of Soviet airborne troops and equipment took place in the Swietoszow/Zagan Training Area [REDACTED]. There were three photographic indications that airborne activity was taking place. On photography [REDACTED], a regiment of BMDs, air-droppable APCs, was seen on pallets at Ryazan Army Barracks SW AL-2 [REDACTED] a probable heavy-drop loading exercise was seen at Kedainiai Airfield [REDACTED] in the Baltic Military District (Figure 6). Eighteen AN-22 COCK aircraft were at this field in addition to the CUB regiment usually present. Thirteen cargo trucks and 39 probable palletized vehicles/pieces of equipment with attached parachute systems were also at the airfield. Kedainiai may have been the staging base for the SHIELD 76 airborne activity. On photography of [REDACTED] at the Vitebsk NE Airfield [REDACTED], only five IL-76 CANDID were present. This count was below the usual level of 23 aircraft.

27. Polish airborne activity was observed in northeast Poland [REDACTED]. Parachutes were lying on the ground in a bivouac area on a lakeshore 2.5 nm southeast of Muszaki. Approximately 75 UAZ-69s and 50 trucks were in an adjacent vehicle park. Aircraft probably associated with this unit were 13.5 nm to the northeast at Szymany Airfield [REDACTED]. One CUB, four COKE and five COLT were seen.

28. Other major training in Poland during the SHIELD 76 exercise included AAA and SAM training at two Baltic coast locations [REDACTED] two AAA regiments and ten probable SA-9 TELs were seen at Wicks Morskie Army/SAM Maneuver Area 1 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] an AAA regiment was on the coast in the vicinity of Mrzezyno Artillery Barracks and AAA Training Area 2 [REDACTED]

29. In possibly related activity, only about one-half of the usual equipment count was observed at the following three Polish installations which house AAA units: at the Zgierz Army Barracks N 002 [REDACTED] at the Leszno Army Barracks 001 [REDACTED] and at the Jelenia Gora KBW Barracks 003 ([REDACTED]) [REDACTED]. Two regiments are usually at each installation.

Air Activity

30. Aircraft of Soviet and East European forces participated in SHIELD 76. A number of airfields, including dispersal fields, were used during the exercise.

31. The Soviet Air Force Poland FLOGGER regiment from Kolobrzeg apparently deployed to Chojna Airfield [REDACTED] for the exercise (Figure 7); Chojna is a Soviet FISHBED base. [REDACTED] the usual number of FISHBED was at this airfield, but 34 FLOGGER were also present. Coverage of Kolobrzeg Airfield [REDACTED] on the same day showed no FLOGGER present.

32. Czechoslovakian Air Force FITTER deployed to Debrzno Airfield [REDACTED] in Poland for the exercise. Photography [REDACTED] showed 41 FITTER, one MAYA, three CRATE, and 12 HIP-C at Debrzno. The Polish FISHBED unit usually stationed here was not present.

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33. One of the Czechoslovakian bases from which the FITTER possibly deployed was covered [redacted] 28 FITTER were present at Namest Nad Oslavou [redacted] Seventy-five trucks/pieces of equipment, probably ground support equipment (GSE), were also seen parked in convoy on the runway and on the taxiway. On [redacted] the GSE was gone and only one FITTER was present. 25X1
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34. The Polish FISHBED unit, which is usually at Debrzno, probably flew to Konarzyny Airfield [redacted], a dispersal field 18 nm from Debrzno. No aircraft were seen at Konarzyny [redacted] but 28 FISHBED, two FRESCO, and four FAGOT/MIDGET were present [redacted] The Polish FISHBED deployment to Konarzyny evidently took place in order to provide space at Debrzno for the Czechoslovakian FITTER aircraft. 25X1
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35. Also at Konarzyny, a temporary air warning site had been established. [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] air warning equipment was seen on the north side of the airfield. [redacted] 25X1
all equipment at this site was net covered. Net covering was also seen in locations that would usually be occupied by instrument landing system and ground control approach equipment. 25X1

37. Significant variations from the usual pattern of air activity were observed at the following airfields in Poland which may have been related to SHIELD 76:

- a. At Smardzko [redacted], an increased number of FRESCO was observed. 25X1
- b. At Pila [redacted], an increased number of FRESCO was also observed. 25X1
- c. At Ploty [redacted] FISHBED were observed at the dispersal field. 25X1
- d. At Nadarzyce [redacted] BEAGLE, FISHBED, and FARMER aircraft were observed at the dispersal field. 25X1
- e. At Broczyno [redacted], HARE/HOPLITE, and HIP helicopters were observed at the dispersal field. 25X1
- f. At Zary, HARE/HOPLITE and probable HIP were observed.

38. A temporary air warning site was observed in a field 1 nm north of Ploty Airfield on [redacted] Major pieces of electronic equipment included one BAR LOCK, one THIN SKIN, and a JAW GATE early warning truck with a FARM GATE-sized screen mounted on it. Thirty-three FISHBED and 93 Polish-type tents were at the airfield. No air warning site is usually associated with this dispersal airfield. 25X1

39. A Polish SA-3 battalion in convoy on a road at Pienieznica Airfield [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] Major equipment included 12 SA-3 transporters, four SA-3 four-rail launchers, one FARM GATE, and one GATE POLE/NYSA-B. Because complete coverage of all the Polish SA-3 sites was not available, the site from which the unit at Pienieznica may have deployed could not be determined. 25X1

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Rail Activity

40. Much of the equipment involved in SHIELD 76 was apparently moved by railroad. Equipment on trains was seen [] at the following locations: Okonek, two points; Lutol Suchy; Zbaszynek; Toporow; and Leszno. A small train in Poznan also carried possible military equipment. Numerous flatcars were seen in Northwest Poland, particularly on the periphery of training areas such as Drawsko and Borne.

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CONCLUSION

41. The extensive photographic coverage of Poland and the USSR before and during SHIELD 76 provided significant information on Warsaw Pact Forces tactics and deployments during maneuvers. The movement of military units to the field from garrison was identified and frequently correlated.

42. The preexercise activity observed demonstrated that preparations for an exercise can be detected on timely photography. The establishment of CPs in the field, the movement of units out of garrison, and the dispersal of aircraft all have significant indications and warnings applications.

REFERENCES

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MAP

CIA. Base Map, Series 200, Sheet 502799, scale 1:4,700,000

DOCUMENT

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REQUIREMENT

Project 121200NC

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List of Conversion Factors by Classification

UNITS OF LENGTH

<i>IF YOU HAVE</i>	<i>MULTIPLY BY</i>	<i>TO OBTAIN</i>
MILLIMETERS	0.0394	INCHES
CENTIMETERS	0.3937	INCHES
INCHES	25.4000	MILLIMETERS
INCHES	2.5400	CENTIMETERS
FEET	0.3048	METERS
FEET	0.0003	KILOMETERS
YARDS	0.9144	METERS
METERS	3.2808	FEET
METERS	0.0005	MILES(NAUTICAL)
METERS	1.0936	YARDS
KILOMETERS	3280.8400	FEET
KILOMETERS	0.6214	MILES(STATUTE)
KILOMETERS	0.5400	MILES(NAUTICAL)
MILES(STATUTE)	1.6093	KILOMETERS
MILES(NAUTICAL)	6076.1154	FEET
MILES(NAUTICAL)	1.8520	KILOMETERS
MILES(NAUTICAL)	1852.0000	METERS

UNITS OF MASS

<i>IF YOU HAVE</i>	<i>MULTIPLY BY</i>	<i>TO OBTAIN</i>
KILOGRAMS	2.2046	POUNDS(AVOIR.)
POUNDS(AVOIR.)	0.4536	KILOGRAMS
SHORT TONS	0.9072	METRIC TONS
METRIC TONS	1.1023	SHORT TONS
METRIC TONS	0.9842	LONG TONS
LONG TONS	1.0160	METRIC TONS

UNITS OF VOLUME

<i>IF YOU HAVE</i>	<i>MULTIPLY BY</i>	<i>TO OBTAIN</i>
LITERS	0.2642	GALLONS
LITERS	0.0063	BARRELS(POL)
LITERS	0.0010	CUBIC METERS
GALLONS	3.7854	LITERS
GALLONS	0.1337	CUBIC FEET
GALLONS	0.0238	BARRELS(POL)
GALLONS	0.0038	CUBIC METERS
BUSHELS	0.0352	CUBIC METERS
CUBIC FEET	7.4805	GALLONS
CUBIC FEET	0.1781	BARRELS(POL)
CUBIC FEET	0.0283	CUBIC METERS
CUBIC YARDS	0.7646	CUBIC METERS
BARRELS(POL)	158.9873	LITERS
BARRELS(POL)	42.0000	GALLONS
BARRELS(POL)	5.6146	CUBIC FEET
BARRELS(POL)	0.1590	CUBIC METERS
CUBIC METERS	1000.0000	LITERS
CUBIC METERS	264.1721	GALLONS
CUBIC METERS	35.3147	CUBIC FEET
CUBIC METERS	28.3776	BUSHELS
CUBIC METERS	6.2898	BARRELS(POL)
CUBIC METERS	1.3080	CUBIC YARDS

UNITS OF AREA

<i>IF YOU HAVE</i>	<i>MULTIPLY BY</i>	<i>TO OBTAIN</i>
SQUARE CENTIMETERS	0.1550	SQUARE INCHES
SQUARE INCHES	6.4516	SQUARE CENTIMETERS
SQUARE FEET	0.0929	SQUARE METERS
SQUARE YARDS	0.8361	SQUARE METERS
SQUARE METERS	10.7639	SQUARE FEET
SQUARE METERS	1.1960	SQUARE YARDS
SQUARE METERS	1.0000	CENTARES
SQUARE METERS	0.0002	ACRES
SQUARE METERS	0.0001	HECTARES
ACRES	4046.8564	SQUARE METERS
ACRES	0.4047	HECTARES
HECTARES	10000.0000	SQUARE METERS
HECTARES	2.4711	ACRES

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